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(*f*) if the answer to (*e*) is in the affirmative, why the Government have fixed the retail selling price in the Agency tracts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts at Rs. 85 per seer while it varies in other tracts of the Presidency from Rs. 104-10-0 to Rs. 183 per seer?

A.—(*a*) The Northern Circars, Madras City and the Nilgiris.
(*b*) The Government have called for a report.
(*c*) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.
(*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 566 at the meeting of the Council held on 12th October 1928. The position is as there stated.
(*e*) & (*f*) No such proposal has been considered.

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" With reference to (*d*), may I know why orders have not been passed upon the report of the Enquiry Committee in the East Godavari district?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The enquiry was started at the instance of the Government of India; the report has been forwarded to the Government of India; they have to pass orders but we cannot publish it till they pass orders."

Mr. F. E. James :—" With reference to clause (*b*), may I ask the Government from whom a report has been called for?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The Commissioner of Excise."

Mr. F. E. James :—" With reference to clause (*c*), may I ask the hon. the Minister to state whether the Government would give a favourable consideration to such a proposal if it were made?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I believe the report contains some proposals, and any proposals the hon. Member may make will be considered."

Agriculture

Training of agricultural students at Anakapalle farm.

* 1727 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the question of selecting students from the agricultural classes and training them in batches at Anakapalle farm as stated in answer to question No. 157 answered on 5th September 1928; and

(*b*) if so, with what result?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) It was never contemplated to train batches of students on the Anakapalle Experiment station itself. In the first place, a research station of this sort is not a suitable place on which to train boys and in the second place if students could not be found willing to come to the school and the school farm to be trained, there was no reason to suppose that they would come forward to be trained on the Experiment station which is adjacent to the school.

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What was contemplated however was the training, not of students but of the maistri and coolie classes on the Experiment station. With this object in view, the Agricultural department issued a leaflet showing what special training could be given on the different Experiment stations in the Presidency, at what times of year, and during what months. The class of man it was designed to attract was the supervisor field labourer who after training might obtain employment as a maistri to a zamindar or big landholder or to an agricultural co-operative society, or who holding such employment might be desirous of improving his knowledge, if possible, at the desire of his employer. The department undertook to give special courses of practical field training to such men on the understanding that they must work in the fields with the station coolies for which they would be paid at ordinary labour rates.

This offer was widely made and was published both as a Government communiqué and as a leaflet in English and the vernacular. The response to it has however so far been very small. There are, it is understood, three men now undergoing training at the Anakapalle Experiment station.

Co-operation

Reduction of the rate of interest on the loans to land mortgage banks.

* 1728 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision in regard to the question of reducing the rate of interest on their loans to land mortgage banks and building societies?

A.—Not yet.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know whether this question was not considered in connexion with the Budget?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Not in this Budget, Sir."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know when a decision is likely to be reached?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"As early as possible."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know if the Government would like to treat these loans as capital loans?"

The hon Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know if they will consider the desirability of making the rule applicable to this case also, that the rate of interest shall be half per cent more than the rate at which the Government borrows money?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"It is under the consideration of Government."

Industries

Detailed statement of the various industries in the Presidency.

* 1729 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the nature, the capital employed, and the present state of the various industries in this province?